

Appl. No. 10/684,393
Amdt. Dated Jan. 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Dec. 14, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended)

An extendable rearview mirror assembly for a vehicle, comprising:
a support arm for attachment to a vehicle body by a mirror mount comprising first and second legs separated by a substantial void which extends along the support arm forming separated horizontal parallel segments;
a mirror assembly mounted on said support arm, said mirror assembly including a bracket and a surrounding housing affixed thereto;
a mirror subassembly affixed to a first side of the bracket and lying within said housing; and
clamp means on said bracket for slidably affixing said bracket to said support arm, comprising;
a first jaw being stationary with respect to said bracket and engaging a first guide rail located along one edge of said support arm; and
a second, movable jaw including pivot means, said second jaw forceably engaging a second guide rail located along a second edge of said support arm structure.

Claim 2 (currently amended)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein said a clamping plane between the jaws is substantially vertical.

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Claim 3 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 further including first bearing means interposed between said first jaw and said first guide rail and second bearing means interposed between said second jaw and said second guide rail.

Claim 4 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 3 wherein said first jaw further includes a guide rail and faces opposite said first support arm guide rail, both guide rails further including surfaces which have a V-shaped cross-section.

Claim 5 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein said second jaw includes a guide rail and faces opposite said second support arm guide rail, both guide rails further including surfaces which have a V-shaped cross-section.

Claim 6 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein said second jaw includes force-applying spring means urging said second jaw in a direction of clamping.

Claim 7 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein said mirror sub-assembly includes a mirror glass, a support plate, and motor-driven positioning means.

Claim 8 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 7 wherein the second jaw is movable to a point of

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release where the bracket is laterally releasable from the support arm.

Claim 9 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 3 wherein the first and second bearing means are elongate, rod-shaped members.

Claim 10 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 3 wherein said bearing means are composed of solid PTFE.

Claim 11 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 3 wherein said bearing means are composed of a substantially ablative material such that initial operation of said slide mechanism causes said bearing means to deposit friction-reducing material upon the surfaces of the guide rails.

Claim 12 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 3 wherein said movable clamp jaw includes a lever arm having an end which engages spring means, the end of said lever arm extending to an opposite side of said bracket.

Claim 13 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 12 wherein said bracket includes a fulcrum about which the lever arm pivots.

Claim 14 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 13 wherein said spring is a coil-type compression

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spring.

Claim 15 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 14 wherein said fulcrum is located along said bracket which holds the spring and the second jaw in their operative positions solely by the co-mutual compression of engaged parts.

Claim 16 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 14 wherein said spring operates between the end of the lever arm and an abutment both being located on the opposite side of said bracket.

Claim 17 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 7 wherein the aggregate center of mass of all components is substantially in the clamping plane.

Claim 18 (original)

An extendable mirror assembly for a vehicle, comprising:
a support arm having two horizontally extending legs at one end and a mounting bracket affixed thereto at an opposite end in slidable engagement therewith; and
clamp means on said bracket including two jaws each engaging top and bottom edges of the support arm respectively, said clamp means including at least one movable jaw which extends from a lever arm and pivots on a fulcrum extending from said bracket and forceably engages a bearing surface along one of said edges of the support arm.

Claim 19 (original)

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The mirror assembly of claim 17 further described in that said first jaw is adjacent the top of the housing and said second jaw is adjacent the bottom of the housing.

Claim 20 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 9 wherein the bearing rods extend the length of the guide rails on the bracket.

Claim 21 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 further including a pair of two-part telescoping covers fully encasing each of said support arm legs, one part of each cover being affixed to each of said legs and a second part of each cover being affixed to said mirror housing.

Claim 22 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 21 wherein said telescoping covers are non-load-bearing.

Claim 23 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 18 wherein said bracket is slidably affixed to said support arm on only one side thereof such that when said movable jaw is moved to a point of release, the jaws of said clamp means and said bracket are laterally releasable from the edges of said support arm.

Claim 24 (original)

The mirror assembly of claim 1 wherein said first and second jaws define a clamping plane between them which lies along the bracket.

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Entry of Terminal Disclaimer

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